

ABSTRACT

From input moving picture data, a thumbnail picture representing the moving picture data is generated as first thumbnail data. From the moving picture data, a thumbnail picture of a picture extracted as being a characteristic picture, or a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, is generated as second thumbnail data, and the first and second thumbnail data are recorded as respective independent groups on the recording medium. So, the user is allowed to select recorded data readily using the recorded picture data.

1. A method for generating thumbnail data from moving picture data, comprising:
 (a) generating first thumbnail data from the moving picture data;
 (b) generating second thumbnail data from the moving picture data, the second thumbnail data being generated from a picture extracted as being a characteristic picture, or a picture specified by a user;
 (c) recording the first and second thumbnail data as respective independent groups on a recording medium;
 (d) allowing a user to select recorded data readily using the recorded picture data.